Hazardous Materials For First Responders

From Where We Came --To Where We Need To Go

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- New York State started delivery of HazMat training in 1976 with an 8 hour course:
 - Placards and labels
 - Shipping papers
 - Highway transportation containers
 - How to obtain help





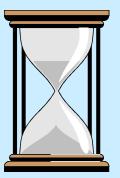
- 1985 HazMat training expanded to a 16 hour class:
 - Included previous material
 - Added rail, water, air, and pipeline transportation
 - Added suggested first responder actions





- March 6, 1989 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) would establish a mandated <u>standard of care</u>
- OSHA focused on safety and not proficiency -- it did provide guidance
- At about same time <u>consensus standard</u>
 NFPA 472 provided for competencies in
 standard of care issues established under
 OSHA

- Curriculum was modified to reflect both the mandatory standard of care as well as consensus standard for HazMat responders
- OSHA required training starts to become institutionalized and accepted as the norm



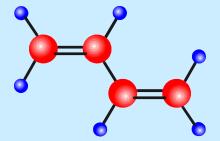
- 1987 FDNY has only organized HazMat Team in New York State
- 1987 NYS Legislature appropriates several million dollars as seed money to start teams
- 2005 we have 81 municipal teams (31 since September 11, 2001)

- 1987 State Legislature enacted a law requiring our office to develop and deliver what will be later called Technician Level training
 - Technician level response skills
 - Plugging, patching, over packing, etc.
 - Protective equipment and decontamination

- 1998 start recognizing potential for Weapons of Mass Destruction - using chemical agents as a weapon
- BNICE becomes well known term now called CBRNE
- Regardless of terminology it is HazMat

- 2001 first standardized response equipment purchased for hazardous materials teams using WMD grants
- Since then over \$200,000,000 has been provided for standardized WMD (HazMat) for first responders

- Today we reach over 15,000 first responder students annually, have had over 100,000 receive training, and have expanded course titles from one in 1976 to near 30 today – all dealing with HazMat and WMD response competencies
- One common thread HAZWOPER



HMTUSA

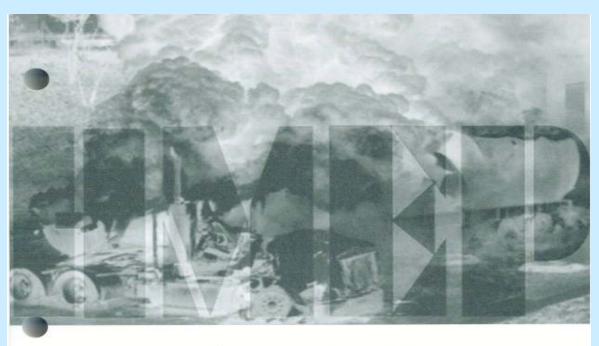
- 12 years ago congress passed Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act
- Section 117 authorized U.S. DOT to develop HazMat curriculum, provide funding to deliver training, and serve as a clearing house for standardized curriculum – scope of curriculum to be determined

HMEP Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness

- U.S. DOT and FEMA joined efforts to recognize standardized curriculum and support HazMat training with grant funds
- Guidelines committee established
- Initial issue was how to utilize OSHA and NFPA standards
 - Required (OSHA) and Recommended (NFPA) objectives to be met

HMEP

- Curriculum evaluation process developed to determine if required or recommended objectives were met
- Self-assessment or HMEP assessment
- Effort was to determine what training materials were available that met HAZWOPER and NFPA 472 objectives to avoid paying to reinvent curriculum



Guidelines for Haz Mat/WMD Response, Planning and Prevention Training

Guidance for Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Program

April 2003 Edition



HMEP and HAZWOPER

- HAZWOPER paragraph (q) became the base line evaluation element as a required element
- Many programs also met some or all objectives of NFPA 472 as a recommended element
- As NFPA 472 evolved during different revisions it became more in-depth and matured
- HazMat Specialist (q)(6)(iv) and NFPA 472 specialist went different directions in defining specialist

HAZWOPER

- First HazMat standard of care defined in Federal Regulation
- One of most comprehensive OSHA standards, especially (q)(3) operational procedures
- Still as important today as it was in 1989
- WMD considerations that are HazMat issues need to be incorporated

Future Issues

- National Response Plan and Homeland Security Initiatives
- Core element of NRP is nationwide use of ICS
- Additional training initiatives need to be to focus on HazMat ICS and uniqueness of response
- Field Service Field Operations Guide (FOG)
 chapter on Hazardous Materials is a good place to start

Homeland Security

- Has identified nearly 1,700 different responder competencies for incidents involving WMD
- Core element for HazMat is NFPA 472 competencies & HAZWOPER
- Several scenarios for states and local's to judge preparedness will utilize the standardized competency list

Future Issues

- Training needs to use good time management - responders time is critical
- Training needs to be very visual to meet today's cultural needs (visual society)
- Training needs to provide for application of knowledge, skills, or abilities
- We have to use technology to reach those that can not get to the classroom

Annual Refresher Training

- 1st preference is always instructor delivered training – especially for new training initiatives
- Need to develop other options for refresher training and practice of technical skills as another option
- While we live in a very technical and innovate society, little has found its way into HAZWOPER training

Annual Refresher Training

- Joint DHS (FEMA) and DOT project was to develop a interactive, multi-discipline, HAZWOPER annual refresher for Operations Level responders
- Concept is to develop and pilot program with NIOSH review. Hope is to convince OSHA to consider this type of refresher training without an instructor on site

Annual Refresher Training CD Based Program

- 17 twenty minute modules
- Some modules training related, others scenario (application) related
- Prompts for incorrect responses and explanation why choice is not correct, especially if it is a safety consideration
- Coaching guide for local instructor
- Can be modified for different state or local conditions

HAZWOPER Considerations

- Is as appropriate today as it was in 1989
- Can be refreshed and fine tuned
- Pressure to make less stringent for occasional responders (why do I have to be Technician trained?)
- Need to find non-traditional ways to deliver training
- Availability of time will continue to be a problem
 - need to use most effective use of that time

THANK YOU!

